Mountain Weather Forecast

Northwest Highlands

Including Sutherland, Ben Wyvis, Wester Ross, The Cuillin, Glen Affric, Glen Shiel and Knoydart
Forecast valid from 06:00 on Thursday 02 Feb 2023 until 23:59 on Friday 03 Feb 2023

Forecast Issued on Thursday 02 Feb 2023 at 02:12 by Met Office Aberdeen

Confidence: High confidence for changeable conditions with a change to mild conditions on Thursday and later Friday, but colder again at the weekend. Medium confidence around rainfall amounts for the Northwest Highlands on Thursday. Often windy throughout the forecast period too.

Headline for Thursday 02 Feb 2023: Persistent heavy rain for most areas, feeling mild for eastern ranges.

Mountain weather hazards on Thursday 02 Feb 2023

Blizzards
No Likelihood

Heavy persistent snow
No Likelihood

Storm force winds
Low Likelihood

Gales
High Likelihood

Severe chill effect
Low Likelihood

Poor visibility
Medium Likelihood

Thunderstorms
No Likelihood

Heavy persistent rain
High Likelihood

Strong sunlight
No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m					
Time					
06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Heavy Rain	Heavy Rain	Heavy Rain	Heavy Rain	Heavy Rain	Light rain
Precipitation probability					
90%	90%	70%	60%	90%	20%

Forecast for Thursday 02 Feb 2023

Weather: Outbreaks of rain overnight becoming more persistent with freezing level rising above all summits. During the morning it will be cloudy with persistent and often heavy rain throughout, the best chance of drier conditions will be towards Easter Ross, eastern hills of Caithness and the Great Glen. During the afternoon southern and western ranges towards Glen Shiel, Kintail and Skye areas will become dry but remain cloudy, perhaps a few cloud breaks for the Cuillin by late afternoon. Further rain may affect the south and west at times during the early evening. Feeling mild especially towards the east. All areas may see some showery conditions later in the evening and a return to clearer conditions with a few cloud breaks later.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: In the west 10%, in the east 30%. Low cloud affecting areas with rainfall for much of the day.

Low cloud and visibility: In the east there will be scattered or broken cloud above 500m at times for much of the day. In the northwest broken or extensive low cloud above 300m with poor visibility at height for much of the day. Visibility is likely to be poor or very poor in the west in heavy rainfall and moderate further east. Cloud may lift for a time for Skye and some southern ranges by early afternoon but it won't be until later in the evening until cloud clears properly with some late evening clear spells.

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/public/weather/mountain-forecast
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Forecast for Thursday 02 Feb 2023

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph) Wind Direction (blowing from)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1000	45/51 SW	48/55 W	46/58 SW	48/61 SW	49/62 SW	53/68 W	38/49 W
900	40/47 SW	43/51 W	43/55 SW	45/58 SW	45/58 SW	51/66 W	36/47 W
600	28/34 SW	30/37 W	31/42 SW	32/44 SW	33/45 SW	36/51 W	25/35 W
300	3/33 W	4/36 W	9/40 SW	8/42 SW	8/43 SW	14/52 W	8/36 W
Glen	14/31 SW	15/32 W	18/37 SW	20/42 SW	21/43 SW	22/44 W	14/30 W

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1000	3/-5	3/-5	3/-5	3/-5	4/-4	2/-6	-1/-10
900	4/-4	4/-4	4/-4	4/-4	4/-3	3/-5	0/-8
600	6/-0	6/0	6/-0	6/-0	6/0	5/-1	3/-4
300	7/6	7/7	7/5	7/5	7/6	8/4	5/2
Glen	9/6	9/6	9/6	9/5	10/6	10/6	8/4
Freezing Level*	1600m	1700m	1600m	1700m	1800m	1300m	800m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Met Office Aberdeen Meteorologist's View

Gales or severe gales for much of the day, winds turning very gusty during the evening and some gusts around 70-80mph possible on the higher summits during the evening. Feeling milder than of late especially towards Inverness although still very cold on the summits especially by late evening when freezing level lowers behind the cold front. Some localised flooding can be expected on Thursday.

Forecast for Friday 03 Feb 2023

Weather: A showery night with a few clear spells developing especially further east, showers turning wintry above 800m. Turning into a cloudy day with patchy light rain and drizzle affecting hills soon after daylight, perhaps sleet at first in the morning. A drier afternoon but remaining cloudy, perhaps a few cloud breaks later for Skye and western coastal areas.

Maximum wind: West or southwest 25-30mph gusts 40-45mph.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 80% soon falling to 30% in the morning as rain affects the areas, increasing to 50% later as cloud begins to lift and clear.

Low cloud and visibility: Patchy cloudy above 600m in the early morning however cloud will thicken and lower, especially in the west as rain approaches. Cloud will become broken above 400m in the west but remain scattered in the east. Visibility will be poor during the morning, improving moderate later.

Temperature: **Glens:** Plus 2 rising to 8 Celsius.
At 800m: Minus 1 rising to plus 3 Celsius.
Freezing level: 800m rising to 1400m

Monday	Remaining unsettled with showers likely and fresh or strong southwesterly winds.

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